Problems faced by Indian Job Seekers Abroad

263. SHRI S.S. CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the problems being faced by the Indian youths abroad for job opportunities; and

(b) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken by Government to redress their problems?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Yes.

(b) All sovereign countries have their own laws, rules and regulations which govern the employment of foreigners, including Indian youths, within their territories. The Government of India is, to this extent, constrained from playing a role in obtaining jobs for Indian youths abroad.

Talks with Pakistan

† 264. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan has recently proposed to resume talks with India which were stalled so far;

(b) if so, the details of the conditions laid for such talks; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHIR YASHWANT SINHA): (a) Pakistan officials and leaders have from time to time claimed that they are in favour of resumption of dialogue with India.

(b) and (c) India is willing to discuss all outstanding issues with Pakistan through bilateral dialogue. However, for bilateral dialogue to take place, Pakistan must end its support and sponsorship of cross-border terrorism.

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.